REMARKS

Status of Claims:

Claims 1-2 and 7-8 are cancelled. Thus, claims 3-6 and 9-12 are present for examination.

Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicant expresses appreciation to the Examiner for the indication that claims 3-6 and 9-12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

Claims 3-6 have been amended to be independent and to include most of the limitations of previously pending base claim 1 and previously pending intervening claim 2. The changes to claims 1 and 2 that have been made when merging claims 1 and 2 into claims 3-6 are shown in appendix A, which is attached hereto.

Claims 3-6 have been further amended to improve clarity. Thus, independent claims 3-6 are believed to be allowable.

Claims 9-12 have been amended to be independent and to include most of the limitations of previously pending base claim 7 and previously pending intervening claim 8. The changes to claims 7 and 8 that have been made when merging claims 7 and 8 into claims 9-12 are shown in appendix A, which is attached hereto.

Claims 9-12 have been further amended to improve clarity. Thus, independent claims 9-12 are believed to be allowable.

Claim Rejections:

Claims 1 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oda (U.S. Patent Number 6,628,698) in view of Zhong (U.S. Patent Number 6,526,029).

Claims 2 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oda in view of Zhong, and further in view of Watanabe (U.S. Patent Number 6,044,104).

Claims 1-2 and 7-8 have been cancelled and, thus, the rejections are moot.

Conclusion:

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date   January 20, 2006   By   _Justin Sobaje_

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP   Justin M. Sobaje
Customer Number: 22428   Attorney for Applicant
Telephone: (310) 975-7965   Registration No. 56,252
Facsimile: (310) 557-8475

Appendix A

Changes to claims 1 and 2 when merged into claims 3-6:

A receiver of a spread spectrum communication system comprising:

a plurality of despreading circuits for despreading a received signals signal having multipath components at predetermined timing timings allocated thereto;

a rake circuit for performing rake combining of the signals despread signals output by the plurality of despreading circuits; and

a path searcher which forms a first window showing a part of a search range and calculates first delay profile data of said received signals signal in said first window to search an effective path, forms at least one second window in the search range other than said first window and calculates second delay profile data of said received signals signal in said second window, and detects timing timings at which said received signals are signal is to be despread based on said calculated first and second delay profile data to allocate the detected timing timings to said plurality of despreading circuits;

wherein said path searcher forms a plurality of second windows including said at least one second window by dividing the search range except said first window to calculate said second delay profile data in said respective second windows of said plurality of second windows in accordance with a predetermined order; and

Changes to claims 7 and 8 when merged into claims 9-12:

A path search method of a spread spectrum communication system comprising:

receiving signals including a signal having multipath components;

forming a first window showing a part of a predetermined search range to search an effective path;

calculating first delay profile data representing a delay profile of the received signals, signal in the first window to search an effective path;

forming at least one second window in the search range other than said first window;

calculating second delay profile data representing a delay profile of the received ~~signals~~ signal in the second window ~~to search an effective path~~; and

detecting timing at which despreading of said received ~~signals~~ signal is to be performed based on the calculated first and second delay profile data~~;~~

wherein said second window forming step includes forming a plurality of second windows including said at least one second window by dividing the search range except said first window~~; and~~

wherein said second delay profile data calculating step includes calculating said second delay profile data in ~~said~~ respective second windows of said plurality of second windows in accordance with a predetermined order~~;~~